(b) and (c) The Scheme of Yoga education was introduced in Kendriya Vidyalayas on experimental basis for one year. Accordingly, Yoga Teachers were appointed on *Ad-hoc* basis for one year. Since the scheme was extended on yearly basis, the *Ad-hoc* appointment of Yoga Teachers was also extended accordingly. Consequent on the decision of the Board of Governors of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan in September, 1986 to integrate the scheme of yoga education with the Physical Education Programme, Yoga teachers possessing the requisite qualifications were put in the regular post and grade of Physical Education Teachers. Those Yoga teachers not possessing the requisite qualification were required to obtain the same within a period of 4 years.

(d) to (f) A representation has been received from an association of teachers asking for regularisation of services of Yoga Teachers. In the light of the decision taken in September, 1986, the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has regularised the services of those Yoga Teachers who possessed requisite qualifications. For others who wish to acquire requisite qualification, the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has arranged an in-service course at LNCPE Gwalior.

Laboratory Assistants in Kendriya Vidyalayas

157. SHRIMATI BIJOY CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that post of Laboratory Assistants in Kendriya Vidyalayas has since been replaced by that of Laboratory Attendants;

(b) if so, whether these two posts are different in terms of the qualifications and background expected of the incumbents and the nature of jobs to be performed by them;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for non re-categorisation of the post of Laboratory Assistants even after revision of their pay scales; and

(d) whether Government are considering the said re-classification; if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (d) The posts of Laboratory Assistants and Laboratory Attendants are different in terms of qualifications and background expected of them. The duties of Laboratory Assistants as well as of Laboratory Attendants include keeping all the laboratory furniture, equipment, etc. in order and clean. In addition, Laboratory Assistants were required to help setting up of apparatus for experiment, preparation of solutions, improvisation and repair of apparatus and helping the teachers in practical work.

It was decided in September, 1974 to have one cadre of Laboratory Attendants only. Consequent on the above decision, it was decided to allow the existing cadre of Laboratory Assistants to continue till the cadre is phased out by retirement, etc. Accordingly, no fresh recruitment is made to the post of Laboratory Assistants and all posts of Laboratory Assistants falling vacant are filled up by Laboratory Attendants.

Eklakhi-Balurghat Line Project

158. DR. R. K. PODDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the progress of work on the Eklakhi-Balurghat line is very poor;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) by when the projects is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) It has not been possible to